Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL USBERLIN 2260

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, GW, WB

SUBJECT: STOBBE LETTER TO HARMAN RE FORD SEARCH FOR

PLANT SITE

REF: USBERLIN 2164, USBERLIN 2206

- 1. SENAT CHANCERY HAS GIVEN US COPY OF LETTER FROM GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE TO UNDER SECRETARY SIDNEY HARMAN RE FORD SEARCH FOR MOTOR PLANT SITE.
- 2. QUOTE: AUGUST 25, 1977 DEAR MR. HARMAN, HAVING RETURNED FROM THE UNITED STATES, I DISCUSSED WITH THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR WHO IS IN BERLIN ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO AND TELEVISION SHOW MY TALKS IN WASHINGTON. HE CONFIRMED ME IN MY INTETION TO CONTINUE MY EFFORTS IN RESPECT OF THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY'S INVESTMENT IN BERLIN.

AS I TOLD YOU, THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY - ACCORDING TO INFORMATION WE RECEIVED FROM OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT - ARE STUDYING AT PRESENT SEVERAL EUROPEAN LOCATIONS FOR A MAJOR INVEST-MENT (4000 JOBS, AROUND DOLLAR 800 MILLION (SIC)). FOR MANY REASONS - NOT LEAST POLITICAL ONES - IT WOULD BE A GOOD CONFIDENTIAL

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THING TO GET A DECISION MADE IN FAVOR OF BERLIN. I AM FULLY, AWARE OF COURSE, THAT NO MATTER HOW IMPORTANT POLITICAL REASONS MAY BE, ECONOMIC REASONS ALONE WILL BE DECISIVE FOR THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY. TOGETHER WITH OUR EXPERTS I AM CONVINCED THAT ALL ECONOMIC FACTORS ARE IN FAVOR OF BERLIN TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE FACT THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY PROMOTING INVESTMENT

IN BERLIN BY SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

MY NEXT AIM IS, THEREFORE, TO HAVE A GROUP OF BERLIN EXPERTS GO TO DETROIT IN ORDER TO GIVE COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ON INVESTMENT MODALITIES IN BERLIN TO THE FORD EXECUTIVES. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD USE YOUR GOOD OFFICES TO INITIATE SUCH CONTACTS BETWEEN THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY AND BERLIN. I ENCLOSE A COPY OF MY LETTER TO HENRY FORD DATED 17 AUGUST 1977.

AS I TOLD YOU I ALSO DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. HE SAID I SHOULD PURSUE IT FURTHER WITH YOU AND YOUR DEPARTMENT AND THAT IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE TO DRAW THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY'S ATTENTION TO THE "LONDON DECLARATION" OF 9 AUGUST 1977 (SIC, 9 MAY 1977) IN THIS CONTEXT. THIS DECLARATION WAS MADE ON THE OCCASION OF THE MOST RECENT MEETING OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE THREE BIG WESTERN POWERS AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN FAVOR OF BERLIN. I ENCLOSE A COPY. SINCERELY YOURS, DIETRICH STOBBE. UNQUOTE.

3. WHEN GIVING US LETTER, CHANCERY OFFICIAL SAID STOBBE ASKED THAT COPY BE SENT AMBASSADOR STOESSEL, WITH THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE ABLE SUPPORT PROJECT IN GENERAL, AND IN PARTICULAR SUPPORT WITH FORD THE IDEA OF A GET-TOGETHER IN DETROIT IN NEAR FUTURE BETWEEN BERLIN EXPERTS AND FORD EXCECUTIVES. REQUEST EUR/CE CONTACT AMBASSADOR AT U.S. LEAVE ADDRESS TO CONVEY FOREGOING. ADDRESS AS WE HAVE IT CONFIDENTIAL

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IS 1717 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, REHOBOTH, DELAWARE, TELEPHONE 302-227-8203. GEORGE

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Subject: STOBBE LETTER TO HARMAN RE FORD SEARCH FOR PLANT SITE

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, GE, WB, UK, US, FORD MOTOR CO

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